

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2611

INFO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EEC, GW

SUBJ: GERMAN INDUSTRY'S ATTITUDE ON EUROFER

REF: BONN 17410

1. DURING RECENT CONVERSATION WITH PETER ADAMS,
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE GERMAN IRON AND STEEL
ASSOCIATION, ADAMS TOLD ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MINISTER
THAT EUROFER WAS NECESSARY TO HAVE A LEGAL CORPORATE
ENTITY WHICH COULD DEAL WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
AND MEET THE CHALLENGE OF IRON AND STEEL PRODUCERS FROM
OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY.

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2. HE EXPLAINED THAT BEGINNING IN 1971 THE FRG BECAME NET IMPORTER OF IRON AND STEEL AND AFTER AN INTERIM PERIOD AS A NET EXPORTER THE FRG WAS AGAIN A NET IMPORTING NATION.

3. WHEN ASKED BY A SENIOR GERMAN OFFICIAL PRESENT AS TO WHETHER EUROFER WOULD CONCERN ITSELF WITH PRICE FIXING, ADAMS SAID THAT THIS WAS ESSENTIAL TO COMPETE WITH THE JAPANESE EXPORT MONOPOLY SINCE IT WAS FOOLISH FOR THE EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS TO COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER AGAINST THE JAPANESE MONOPOLY.

4. ADAMS SAID THAT IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF EUROFER WOULD BE LOCATED IN LUXEMBOURG.

5. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF GERMAN OFFICIAL RESISTANCE TO DIRIGISM IN THE EUROPEAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT GERMAN INDUSTRY AND THE GOVERNMENT DO NOT SEE COMPLETELY EYE TO EYE ON THE SUBJECT.
CASH

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